



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q61223

Hideya TAKEO

Appln. No.: 09/778,908

Group Art Unit: 2624

Confirmation No.: 5842

Examiner: Anh Hong DO

Filed: February 8, 2001

For: IMAGE CODING-DECODING METHOD, IMAGE CODING-DECODING SYSTEM, IMAGE CODER, IMAGE DECODER, AND STORAGE MEDIUM

PETITION FOR WITHDRAWAL OF HOLDING OF ABANDONMENT UNDER

37 C.F.R. § 1.181

MAIL STOP PETITION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The undersigned, on behalf of applicant, in accordance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.181 and MPEP §711.03(c)(I), hereby petitions the Commissioner requesting withdrawal of the holding of abandonment of the above identified application. The application was abandoned for allegedly not responding to the Final Office Action dated December 27, 2004.

However, a Notice of Appeal was timely filed on June 27, 2005 along with an Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116.

Submitted herewith are the following documents:



**PETITION FOR WITHDRAWAL OF
HOLDING OF ABANDONMENT UNDER
37 C.F.R. § 1.181
Appln. No.: 09/778,908**

Attorney Docket No.: Q61223

1. Copy of the Notice of Appeal, along with Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 and Petition for Extension of Time.
2. Copy of a date stamped filing receipt acknowledging filed Notice of Appeal of June 27, 2005.
3. Copy of the Notice of Abandonment mailed December 15, 2005.

In view of the above it is respectfully submitted that the application should not have been abandoned and the Commissioner is petitioned to withdraw the holding of abandonment.

It is believed that no fee is due. However, the USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. If it is deemed that this Petition should have been filed as a Petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.137, then the USPTO is requested to treat this Petition as such and charge the requisite fees to the above Deposit Account. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan Peng Pan
Registration No. 41,239

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
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WASHINGTON OFFICE
23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: December 22, 2005



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FILING RECEIPT
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In re application of

Hideya TAKEO

Appln. No.: 09/778,908

Group Art Unit: 2624

Confirmation No.: 5842

Examiner: Anh Hong Do

Filed: February 8, 2001

For: IMAGE CODING-DECODING METHOD, IMAGE CODING-DECODING SYSTEM, IMAGE CODER, IMAGE DECODER, AND STORAGE MEDIUM

PAPER(S) FILED ENTITLED:

1. Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116
2. Petition for Extension of Time (in duplicate with Check No. 275581 in the amount of \$1020.00).
3. Notice of Appeal (in duplicate with Check No. 273580 in the amount of \$500.00).

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WASHINGTON OFFICE
23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER



DOCKET NO.: Q61223
ATTORNEY/SEC: SPP/ldw
Date Filed: June 27, 2005



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q61223

Hideya TAKEO

Appln. No.: 09/778,908

Group Art Unit: 2624

Confirmation No.: 5842

Examiner: Anh Hong Do

Filed: February 8, 2001

For: IMAGE CODING-DECODING METHOD, IMAGE CODING-DECODING SYSTEM,
IMAGE CODER, IMAGE DECODER, AND STORAGE MEDIUM

DOCKETED

NOTICE OF APPEAL

JUN 27 2005

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant hereby appeals to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences from the final Office Action dated June 27, 2005.

A check for the statutory fee of \$500.00 is attached. The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Perng Pan # 40,766
for Susan Perng Pan
Registration No. 41,239

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WASHINGTON OFFICE
23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: June 27, 2005



AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
GROUP 2624
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q61223

Hideya TAKEO

Appln. No.: 09/778,908

Group Art Unit: 2624

Confirmation No.: 5842

Examiner: Anh Hong Do

Filed: February 8, 2001

For: IMAGE CODING-DECODING METHOD, IMAGE CODING-DECODING SYSTEM, IMAGE CODER, IMAGE DECODER, AND STORAGE MEDIUM

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

MAIL STOP AF

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DOCKETED
JUN 27 2005

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 27, 2005, please amend the above-identified application as follows on the accompanying pages.

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): An image coding-decoding method comprising the steps of:
 - performing a multiresolution transformation process on an image signal to obtain multiresolution transformed signals;
 - performing a coefficient transformation process, which corresponds to a desired image processing, on said multiresolution transformed signals to obtain processed transformed signals which carry a processed image subjected to said desired image processing;
 - performing a coding process on said processed transformed signals to obtain processed coded data which carries said processed image; and
 - decoding said processed coded data and further performing an inverse multiresolution transformation process, to obtain a processed image signal which carries said processed image[.];

wherein said coefficient transformation process is a process of performing transform on coefficients to produce an image similar to an image which can be obtained by performing at least one of gray-scale transformation processing, noise suppression processing, frequency enhancement processing, and dynamic range compression processing.

2. (currently amended): An image coding-decoding method comprising the steps of:
 - performing a multiresolution transformation process on an image signal to obtain multiresolution transformed signals;

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performing a coding process on said multiresolution transformed signals to obtain coded data;

decoding said coded data to obtain decoded transformed signals;

performing a coefficient transformation process, which corresponds to a desired image processing, on said decoded transformed signals to obtain processed transformed signals which carry a processed image subjected to said desired image processing; and

performing an inverse multiresolution transformation process on said processed transformed signals to obtain a processed image signal which carries said processed image[. . .];

wherein said coefficient transformation process is a process of performing transform on coefficients to produce an image similar to an image which can be obtained by performing at least one of gray-scale transformation processing, noise suppression processing, frequency enhancement processing, and dynamic range compression processing.

3. (currently amended): An image coding-decoding system comprising:

multiresolution transformation means for performing a multiresolution transformation process on an image signal to obtain multiresolution transformed signals;

coefficient transformation means for performing a coefficient transformation process, which corresponds to a desired image processing, on said multiresolution transformed signals to obtain processed transformed signals which carry a processed image subjected to said desired image processing;

coding means for performing a coding process on said processed transformed signals to obtain processed coded data which carries said processed image;

decoding means for decoding said processed coded data; [[and]]

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inverse multiresolution transformation means for performing an inverse multiresolution transformation process on said processed transformed signals to obtain processed image signals which carry said processed image[.]; and

wherein said coefficient transformation process is a process of performing transform on coefficients to produce an image similar to an image which can be obtained by performing at least one of gray-scale transformation processing, noise suppression processing, frequency enhancement processing, and dynamic range compression processing.

4. (currently amended): An image coding-decoding system comprising:

multiresolution transformation means for performing a multiresolution transformation process on an image signal to obtain multiresolution transformed signals;

coding means for performing a coding process on said multiresolution transformed signals to obtain coded data;

decoding means for decoding said coded data to obtain decoded transformed signals;

coefficient transformation means for performing a coefficient transformation process, which corresponds to a desired image processing, on said decoded transformed signals to obtain processed transformed signals which carry a processed image subjected to said desired image processing; [[and]]

inverse multiresolution transformation means for performing an inverse multiresolution transformation process on said processed transformed signals to obtain processed image signals which carry said processed image[.]; and

wherein said coefficient transformation process is a process of performing transform on coefficients to produce an image similar to an image which can be obtained by performing at

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least one of gray-scale transformation processing, noise suppression processing, frequency enhancement processing, and dynamic range compression processing.

5. (currently amended): An image coder comprising:

multiresolution transformation means for performing a multiresolution transformation process on an image signal to obtain multiresolution transformed signals;
coefficient transformation means for performing a coefficient transformation process, which corresponds to a desired image processing, on said multiresolution transformed signals to obtain processed transformed signals which carry a processed image subjected to said desired image processing; and

coding means for performing a coding process on said processed transformed signals to obtain processed coded data which carries said processed image[. . .];

wherein said coefficient transformation process is a process of performing transform on coefficients to produce an image similar to an image which can be obtained by performing at least one of gray-scale transformation processing, noise suppression processing, frequency enhancement processing, and dynamic range compression processing.

6. (currently amended): An image decoder comprising:

decoding means for decoding coded data to obtain decoded transformed signals;
coefficient transformation means for performing a coefficient transformation process, which corresponds to a desired image processing, on said decoded transformed signals to obtain processed transformed signals which carry a processed image subjected to said desired image processing; and

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inverse multiresolution transformation means for performing an inverse multiresolution transformation process on said processed transformed signals to obtain a processed image signal which carries said processed image[.];

wherein said coefficient transformation process is a process of performing transform on coefficients to produce an image similar to an image which can be obtained by performing at least one of gray-scale transformation processing, noise suppression processing, frequency enhancement processing, and dynamic range compression processing.

7. (currently amended): A computer readable storage medium recording a program for making a computer execute an image coding-decoding method, the program having:

 a procedure of performing a multiresolution transformation process on an image signal to obtain multiresolution transformed signals;

 a procedure of performing a coefficient transformation process, which corresponds to a desired image processing, on said multiresolution transformed signals to obtain processed transformed signals which carry a processed image subjected to said desired image processing;

 a procedure of performing a coding process on said processed transformed signals to obtain processed coded data which carries said processed image; and

 a procedure of decoding said processed coded data and further performing an inverse multiresolution transformation process, to obtain a processed image signal which carries said processed image[.];

wherein said coefficient transformation process is a process of performing transform on coefficients to produce an image similar to an image which can be obtained by performing at

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
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least one of gray-scale transformation processing, noise suppression processing, frequency enhancement processing, and dynamic range compression processing.

8. (currently amended): A computer readable storage medium recording a program for making a computer execute an image coding-decoding method, the program having:

 a procedure of performing a multiresolution transformation process on an image signal to obtain multiresolution transformed signals;

 a procedure of performing a coding process on said multiresolution transformed signals to obtain coded data;

 a procedure of decoding said coded data to obtain decoded transformed signals;

 a procedure of performing a coefficient transformation process, which corresponds to a desired image processing, on said decoded transformed signals to obtain processed transformed signals which carry a processed image subjected to said desired image processing; and

 a procedure of performing an inverse multiresolution transformation process on said processed transformed signals to obtain a processed image signal which carries said processed image[[.]];

wherein said coefficient transformation process is a process of performing transform on coefficients to produce an image similar to an image which can be obtained by performing at least one of gray-scale transformation processing, noise suppression processing, frequency enhancement processing, and dynamic range compression processing.

9. (previously presented): The image coding-decoding method of claim 1, wherein said processed coded data is selectively inputted from either a coding means or a storage device.

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10. (previously presented): The image coding-decoding system of claim 3, further comprising a switch for selectively inputting said processed coded data from either a coding means or a storage device.

11. (previously presented): The image coding-decoding system of claim 10, wherein the storage device comprises a file server.

12. (previously presented): The computer readable storage medium of claim 7, wherein said program further has a procedure for selectively inputting said processed coded data from either a coding means or a storage device.

13. (previously presented). The method of claim 1, wherein said coefficient transform comprises at least one of coefficient suppression; a non-linear transform; and gamma transform according to the desired image processing.

14. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the multiresolution transformed signals comprise a set of multiresolution coefficients and said coefficient transformation process changes said multiresolution coefficients.

15. (previously presented): The method of claim 14, wherein said coefficient transform comprises at least one of coefficient suppression; a non-linear transform; and gamma transform according to the desired image processing.

16. (previously presented): The method of claim 13, wherein the coefficient suppression is applied to high frequency coefficients.

17. (previously presented): The method of claim 13, wherein the non-linear transform comprises a gradient adjustment on high frequency coefficients.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
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18. (previous presented): The method of claim 13, wherein the gamma transform is applied to low frequency coefficients.

19. (currently amended): A computer readable storage medium recording a program for making a computer execute an image coding-decoding method, the program having:

a procedure of performing a multiresolution transformation process on an image signal to obtain multiresolution transformed signals;

a procedure of performing a coefficient transformation process, which corresponds to a desired image processing, on said multiresolution transformed signals to obtain processed transformed signals which carry a processed image subjected to said desired image processing; and

a procedure of performing a coding process on said processed transformed signals to obtain processed coded data which carries said processed image[.];

wherein said coefficient transformation process is a process of performing transform on coefficients to produce an image similar to an image which can be obtained by performing at least one of gray-scale transformation processing, noise suppression processing, frequency enhancement processing, and dynamic range compression processing.

20. (currently amended): A computer readable storage medium recording a program for making a computer execute an image coding-decoding method, the program having:

a procedure of decoding coded data to obtain decoded transformed signals;

a procedure of performing a coefficient transformation process, which corresponds to a desired image processing, on said decoded transformed signals to obtain processed transformed signals which carry a processed image subjected to said desired image processing; and

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
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a procedure of performing an inverse multiresolution transformation process on said processed transformed signals to obtain a processed image signal which carries said processed image[.];

wherein said coefficient transformation process is a process of performing transform on coefficients to produce an image similar to an image which can be obtained by performing at least one of gray-scale transformation processing, noise suppression processing, frequency enhancement processing, and dynamic range compression processing.

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by previously-cited Castelli et al. (US 6,141,445; hereafter “Castelli”).

In the Amendment filed July 23, 2004, Applicant argued that Castelli does not disclose the feature of claim 2 of performing a coefficient transformation process, which corresponds to a desired image processing, on the decoded transformed signals to obtain processed transformed signals which carry a processed image subjected to the desired image processing. In the “Response to Arguments,” with respect to claims 2 and 6, the Examiner states that “Castelli clearly teaches inverse wavelet transforming on the decoded transformed signals to obtain processed transformed signals which carry the processed image subjected to the desired image processing (see col. 10, lines 40-48).” The Examiner further contends that Castelli performs coding on transformed sidebands. The cited excerpt states the following:

In particular, a lossy version of the image can be reconstructed at any level of resolution by just decoding the blocks that contain wavelet coefficients corresponding to the required portion, and inverting the wavelet transform for these coefficients, only. This provides a significant speedup during the decoding process, since the whole image does not need to be processed, and allows image processing operations to be efficiently applied to reduced resolution image constructs.

The cited excerpt appears to disclose decoding of blocks that contain certain wavelet coefficients and inverting the wavelet transform for these coefficients. Applicant submits that the wavelet transforms are different from the coefficient processing of the claimed invention, as amended in claims 1-8 and 19-20. The claims describe coefficient transformation processing to produce a desired image by changing values of coefficient signals.

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Applicant further submits that Castelli does not teach or suggest all of the limitations of claim 10 of the present application, which recites a switch for selectively inputting the processed coded data from either a coding means or a storage device. The Examiner asserts that the search unit 738 corresponds to the claimed switch. As disclosed in Castelli, the search unit 738 “searches the storage system for at least a portion of the image stored thereon.” Thus, the search unit 738 performs searching, not switching. The search unit 738 is not a switch. Hence, claim 10 is not anticipated by Castelli.

For claim 13, Applicant submits that Castelli fails to disclose all of the limitations of the claim. Recited in claim 13 is wherein the coefficient transform comprises at least one of coefficient suppression; a non-linear transform; and gamma transform according to the desired image processing. The Examiner asserts that Castelli teaches DWT as a non-linear transformation at col. 4, lines 37-41. However, the cited excerpt only discloses the following: “One example of a transform-based technique is Discrete Wavelet Transformation, which takes as input the lattice data provided by a user or a program and produces wavelet coefficients representing a multiresolution decomposition of the input data.” Nothing in the reference suggests that the DWT disclosed by Castelli is a non-linear transformation. The reference is silent in this regard. Thus, Applicant submits that claim 13 is not anticipated by Castelli.

Applicant submits that claim 15 is allowable for at least the same reasons discussed in relation to claim 13.

Applicant submits that claims 16-18 are allowable at least because of their dependence from claim 13.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
J.S. Appln. No.: 09/778,908

With further regard to claims 16, 17 and 18, Applicant submit that Castelli fails to teach or suggest all of the limitations of these claims. The Examiner points to FIG. 3 as allegedly disclosing the features of these claims.

Claim 16 recites wherein the coefficient suppression is applied to high frequency coefficients. The Examiner refers to HH1 and HH2 as being high frequency coefficients, but FIG. 3 does not disclose coefficient suppression.

Claim 17 recites wherein the non-linear transform comprises a gradient adjustment on high frequency coefficients. The Examiner asserts that “the non-linear transform comprises a gradient adjustment on high frequency coefficients.” However, as discussed above in relation to claim 13, Castelli fails to disclose the non-linear transform. Furthermore, there is no support for the Examiner’s assertion that Castelli discloses gradient adjustment.

Claim 18 recites wherein the gamma transform is applied to low frequency coefficients. The Examiner points to LL2 as disclosing low frequency coefficients, but Castelli does not disclose the claimed gamma transform. FIG. 3 illustrates no such transform.

Based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 16-18 are allowable over Castelli or these additional reasons.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
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With further regard to claims 16, 17 and 18, Applicant submit that Castelli fails to teach or suggest all of the limitations of these claims. The Examiner points to FIG. 3 as allegedly disclosing the features of these claims.

Claim 16 recites wherein the coefficient suppression is applied to high frequency coefficients. The Examiner refers to HH1 and HH2 as being high frequency coefficients, but FIG. 3 does not disclose coefficient suppression.

Claim 17 recites wherein the non-linear transform comprises a gradient adjustment on high frequency coefficients. The Examiner asserts that “the non-linear transform comprises a gradient adjustment on high frequency coefficients.” However, as discussed above in relation to claim 13, Castelli fails to disclose the non-linear transform. Furthermore, there is no support for the Examiner’s assertion that Castelli discloses gradient adjustment.

Claim 18 recites wherein the gamma transform is applied to low frequency coefficients. The Examiner points to LL2 as disclosing low frequency coefficients, but Castelli does not disclose the claimed gamma transform. FIG. 3 illustrates no such transform.

Based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 16-18 are allowable over Castelli for these additional reasons.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
U.S. Appln. No.: 09/778,908

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan Peng Dan
Registration No. 41,239

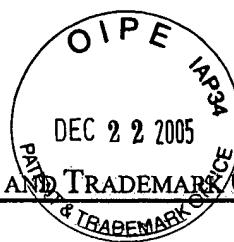
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23373
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Date: June 27, 2005



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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/778,908	02/08/2001	Hideya Takeo	Q61223	5842

7590 12/15/2005

SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN, MACPEE
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20037-3202

DOCKETED

DEC 19 2005

EXAMINER

DO, ANH HONG

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2627

DATE MAILED: 12/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Notice of Abandonment	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/778,908	TAKEO, HIDEYA	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	ANH H. DO	2627	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

This application is abandoned in view of:

1. Applicant's failure to timely file a proper reply to the Office letter mailed on 27 December 2004.
 - (a) A reply was received on _____ (with a Certificate of Mailing or Transmission dated _____), which is after the expiration of the period for reply (including a total extension of time of _____ month(s)) which expired on _____.
 - (b) A proposed reply was received on 6/27/2005, but it does not constitute a proper reply under 37 CFR 1.113 (a) to the final rejection.

(A proper reply under 37 CFR 1.113 to a final rejection consists only of: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114).
 - (c) A reply was received on _____ but it does not constitute a proper reply, or a bona fide attempt at a proper reply, to the non-final rejection. See 37 CFR 1.85(a) and 1.111. (See explanation in box 7 below).
 - (d) No reply has been received.
2. Applicant's failure to timely pay the required issue fee and publication fee, if applicable, within the statutory period of three months from the mailing date of the Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85).
 - (a) The issue fee and publication fee, if applicable, was received on _____ (with a Certificate of Mailing or Transmission dated _____), which is after the expiration of the statutory period for payment of the issue fee (and publication fee) set in the Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85).
 - (b) The submitted fee of \$_____ is insufficient. A balance of \$_____ is due.

The issue fee required by 37 CFR 1.18 is \$_____. The publication fee, if required by 37 CFR 1.18(d), is \$_____.
 - (c) The issue fee and publication fee, if applicable, has not been received.
3. Applicant's failure to timely file corrected drawings as required by, and within the three-month period set in, the Notice of Allowability (PTO-37).
 - (a) Proposed corrected drawings were received on _____ (with a Certificate of Mailing or Transmission dated _____), which is after the expiration of the period for reply.
 - (b) No corrected drawings have been received.
4. The letter of express abandonment which is signed by the attorney or agent of record, the assignee of the entire interest, or all of the applicants.
5. The letter of express abandonment which is signed by an attorney or agent (acting in a representative capacity under 37 CFR 1.34(a)) upon the filing of a continuing application.
6. The decision by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interference rendered on _____ and because the period for seeking court review of the decision has expired and there are no allowed claims.
7. The reason(s) below:



ANH H DO
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 2627

Petitions to revive under 37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b), or requests to withdraw the holding of abandonment under 37 CFR 1.181, should be promptly filed to minimize any negative effects on patent term.